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1964/07/24

VIETNAM
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~~TOP SECRET~~ July 24, 1964

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

SUBJECT: Air drops in North Vietnam

I apologize energetically for my stupid error in passing you bum information on this subject in the last two days. I misunderstood a telephone comment from an innocent officer, and did not check the documents myself.

The facts as I now have them are that we have made a total of 8 drops since April 1964 as a part of our overall covert plan 34A. This makes Bob McNamara's statement of weekly drops a 100% exaggeration, but that is much better than being wrong on the basic fact as I was. These efforts have been only very moderately successful, and the casualty rates are high, but we still have radio contact with about half of these people.

I will have a more complete report tomorrow.

McG. B.

~~TOP SECRET~~

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By JB, NARS, Date 3/16/77

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